

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff,

V.

NELLY N. ANQUEIRA,
Defendant.

CRIMINAL NO. 25-253-MAJ

25-253-MAJ

PLEA AGREEMENT

TO THE HONORABLE COURT:

The United States of America, Defendant, Nelly N. Anqueira, and Defendant's counsel, Marie L. Cortés-Cortés, Esq., pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11, state that they have reached a Plea Agreement, the terms and conditions of which are as follows:

1. Charges to which Defendant will Plead Guilty

Defendant agrees to plead guilty to Count One of the Information:

Count One:

Between on or about June 1, 2023, and continuing through on or about June 30, 2024, in the District of Puerto Rico, the defendant, Nelly N. Anqueira, knowingly and willfully embezzled, stole, and converted to her own use or the use of another, money of the Social Security Administration (SSA), a department or agency of the United States, namely payments issued by the United States Department of Treasury, on behalf of the Social Security Administration, which payments were made payable to individual with initials F.A.S., to which she knew she was not entitled, having a

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

value in excess of \$1,000.00, that is, approximately \$11,835.00. In violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641.

2. Maximum Penalties

The maximum statutory penalty for the offense charged in Count One of the Information, is a term of imprisonment of not more than ten (10) years pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 641; a fine not to exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3571(b)(3); and a supervised release term of not more than three years, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583(b)(2).

3. Sentencing Guidelines Applicability

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Defendant understands that the sentence will be imposed by the Court in accordance with 18 U.S.C. §§ 3551-86, and the United States Sentencing Guidelines (hereinafter “Guidelines”), which are advisory pursuant to the United States Supreme Court decision in *United States v. Booker*, 543 U.S. 220 (2005). Further, Defendant acknowledges that parole has been abolished, and that the imposition of Defendant’s sentence may not be suspended.

4. Special Monetary Assessment

Defendant agrees to pay a special monetary assessment (“SMA”) of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per count of conviction. The SMA will be deposited in the Crime Victim Fund, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3013 (a)(2)(A).

5. Fines and Restitution

The Court may, pursuant to Section 5E1.2 of the Guidelines order Defendant

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

to pay a fine. Defendant agrees to execute and make available, prior to sentencing, a standardized financial statement (OBD Form 500). The United States will advocate on behalf of any identified victim, and comply with its obligations under the Mandatory Victim Restitution Act of 1996. The parties agree that the defendant will make restitution to the United States Social Security Administration in the amount of \$11,835.00. The defendant further agrees to transfer the overpayment from the deceased beneficiary SSA record of individual with initials F.A.S. to his own SSA record. The defendant acknowledges that the restitution sought in this case does not impact the Social Security Administration's administrative policies and/or proceedings including, but not limited to, withholding or overpayment policies.

b2C
~~b7c~~ The defendant agrees not to sell, transfer, loan, assign, dispose, remove, conceal, waste, encumber, destroy, or otherwise devalue any property or asset worth more than \$5,000 before sentencing and before satisfaction of any fine or restitution imposed, without the prior written approval of the United States. The defendant agrees to notify the United States in writing of any interest in any property or asset which is valued at more than \$5,000 that the defendant may obtain, directly or indirectly, after execution of the Plea Agreement until the fine or restitution is paid in full. The defendant understands and agrees that defendant's failure to comply with this provision of the Plea Agreement shall be considered a material breach of the Plea Agreement.

U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement

6. Sentence to be Determined by the Court

Defendant understands that the sentence to be imposed will be determined solely by the United States District Judge. The United States cannot make and has not made any promise or representation as to what sentence Defendant will receive. Any discussions that the parties might have had about possible sentences are not binding in any way on the Court, and do not constitute representations about what the parties will seek, or what the actual sentence will be.

7. Recommended Sentencing Guidelines Calculations

After due consideration of the relevant factors enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), the United States and Defendant submit that the advisory Guidelines calculations listed below apply to Defendant. However, Defendant acknowledges that the Court is not required to accept those recommended Guidelines calculations.

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SENTENCING GUIDELINES CALCULATIONS	
COUNT ONE	
18 U.S.C. § 641	
Base Offense Level pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(a)(2)	6
Specific Offense Characteristic pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 2B1.1(b)(1)(B) since the amount of loss greater than \$6,500.00 but less than \$15,000.00	+2
Acceptance of Responsibility pursuant to U.S.S.G. §3E1.1	-2
TOTAL ADJUSTED OFFENSE LEVEL¹	6

¹ If the defendant meets all the requirements of the zero-point offender provision, the defendant's Total Offense Level should be further decreased by two (2) levels, pursuant to U.S.S.G. 4Cl. 1, for a total offense level of 4.

U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement

SENTENCING GUIDELINES CALCULATIONS					
COUNT ONE					
18 U.S.C. § 641					
CH Cat. I	CH Cat. II	CH Cat. III	CH Cat. IV	CH Cat. V	CH Cat. VI
0-6	1-7	2-8	6-12	9-15	12-18

8. Sentence Recommendation

After due consideration of the relevant factors enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a), the parties agree to request a sentence of one (1) year of probation.

The parties agree that any recommendation by either party below or above the stipulated sentence recommendation will constitute a material breach of the Plea Agreement.

9. No Stipulation as to Criminal History Category

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~~Defendant~~
 The parties do not stipulate as to any Criminal History Category for Defendant.

10. Waiver of Appeal

Defendant knowingly and voluntarily agrees that, if the imprisonment sentence imposed by the Court is six months or less, Defendant waives the right to appeal any aspect of this case's judgment and sentence, including, but not limited to the term of imprisonment or probation, restitution, fines, forfeiture, and the term and conditions of supervised release.

11. No Further Adjustments or Departures

U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement

The United States and Defendant agree that no further adjustments or departures to Defendant's total adjusted base offense level and no variant sentence under 18 U.S.C. § 3553—other than any explicitly provided for in this Plea Agreement—shall be sought by Defendant. The parties agree that any request by Defendant for an adjustment or departure that is not explicitly provided for in this Plea Agreement will be considered a material breach of this Plea Agreement, and the United States will be free to ask for any sentence, either guideline or statutory.

12. Satisfaction with Counsel

Defendant is satisfied with counsel, Marie L. Cortés-Cortés, Esq., and asserts that counsel has rendered effective legal assistance.

13. Rights Surrendered by Defendant Through Guilty Plea

Defendant understands that by entering into this Plea Agreement, Defendant surrenders and waives certain rights as detailed in this agreement. Defendant understands that the rights of criminal defendants include the following:



- a. If Defendant had persisted in a plea of not guilty to the charges, Defendant would have had the right to a speedy jury trial with the assistance of counsel. The trial may be conducted by a judge sitting without a jury if Defendant, the United States and the judge agree.
- b. If a jury trial is conducted, the jury would be composed of twelve lay persons selected at random. Defendant and Defendant's attorney would assist in selecting the jurors by removing prospective jurors for cause where actual bias or other disqualification is shown, or by removing prospective jurors without cause by exercising peremptory challenges. The jury would have to agree, unanimously, before it could return a verdict of either guilty or not guilty. The jury would be instructed that Defendant is presumed innocent, that it could not convict Defendant unless, after hearing all the evidence, it was

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

persuaded of Defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt, and that it was to consider each charge separately.

- c. If a trial is held by the judge without a jury, the judge would find the facts and, after hearing all the evidence and considering each count separately, determine whether or not the evidence established Defendant's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.
- d. At a trial, the United States would be required to present its witnesses and other evidence against Defendant. Defendant would be able to confront those witnesses and Defendant's attorney would be able to cross-examine them. In turn, Defendant could present witnesses and other evidence on Defendant's own behalf. If the witnesses for Defendant would not appear voluntarily, Defendant could require their attendance through the subpoena power of the Court.
- e. At a trial, Defendant could rely on the privilege against self-incrimination to decline to testify, and no inference of guilt could be drawn from Defendant's refusal to testify. If Defendant desired to do so, Defendant could testify on Defendant's own behalf.

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14. Stipulation of Facts

The accompanying Stipulation of Facts signed by Defendant is hereby incorporated into this Plea Agreement. Defendant adopts the Stipulation of Facts and agrees that the facts therein are accurate in every respect. Defendant agrees and accepts that had the matter proceeded to trial, the United States would have proven those facts beyond a reasonable doubt.

15. Limitations of Plea Agreement

This Plea Agreement binds only the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Puerto Rico and Defendant. It does not bind any other federal district, state, or local authorities.

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

16. Entirety of Plea Agreement

This written agreement constitutes the complete Plea Agreement between the United States, Defendant, and Defendant's counsel. The United States has made no promises or representations except as set forth in writing in this Plea Agreement and denies the existence of any other terms and conditions not stated herein.

17. Amendments to Plea Agreement

No other promises, terms or conditions will be entered into between the parties unless they are in writing and signed by all parties.

18. Voluntariness of Plea Agreement


Defendant acknowledges that no threats have been made against Defendant and that Defendant is pleading guilty freely and voluntarily because Defendant is guilty.

19. Breach and Waiver

Defendant agrees that defendant will have breached this Plea Agreement if, after entering into this Plea Agreement, Defendant: (a) fails to perform or to fulfill completely each and every one of Defendant's obligations under this Plea Agreement; (b) engages in any criminal activity prior to sentencing; or (c) attempts to withdraw Defendant's guilty plea. In the event of such a breach, the United States will be free from its obligation under this Plea Agreement and Defendant will not have the right to withdraw the guilty plea. Moreover, Defendant agrees that if Defendant is in breach of the Plea Agreement, Defendant is deemed to have waived

U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement

any objection to the reinstatement of any charges under the Indictment, Information, or complaint which may have previously been dismissed or which may have not been previously prosecuted.

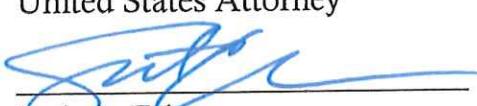
20. Potential Impact on Immigration Status

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Criminal Procedure 11(b)(1)(O), Defendant hereby agrees and recognizes that if convicted, a Defendant who is not a United States citizen may be removed from the United States, denied citizenship, and denied admission to the United States in the future.

21. Felony Conviction

Defendant hereby agrees and recognizes that the plea of guilty in this case will be recognized as a felony conviction, which will result in the loss of certain rights, including but not limited to the right to vote in a federal election, to serve as a juror, to hold public office, and to lawfully possess a firearm.

W. STEPHEN MULDROW
United States Attorney


Seth A. Erbe
Assistant U.S. Attorney
Chief, Financial Fraud and
Public Corruption Unit
Dated: 5/7/25


Vanessa D. Bonano-Rodríguez
Special Assistant U.S. Attorney
Dated: 5.7.25


Marie L. Cortés-Cortés
Counsel for Defendant
Dated: May 8, 2025

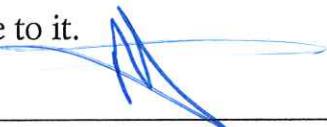

Nelly N. Anqueira
Defendant
Dated: May 8, 2025

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

UNDERSTANDING OF RIGHTS

I have consulted with counsel and fully understand all of my rights as to the charges pending against me. Further, I have consulted with my attorney and fully understand my rights as to the provisions of the Guidelines that may apply in my case. I have read this Plea Agreement and carefully reviewed every part of it with my attorney. My counsel has translated the Plea Agreement to me in the Spanish language and I have no doubts as to the contents of the agreement. I fully understand this agreement and voluntarily agree to it.

Date: Mayo 8 2025



Nelly N. Anqueira
Defendant

I am the attorney for Defendant. I have fully explained Defendant's rights to Defendant with respect to the pending charges. Further, I have reviewed the applicable provisions of the Guidelines and I have fully explained to Defendant the provisions of those Guidelines that may apply in this case. I have carefully reviewed every part of this Plea Agreement with Defendant. I have translated the Plea Agreement and explained it in the Spanish language to the Defendant who has expressed having no doubts as to the contents of the agreement. To my knowledge, Defendant is entering into this Plea Agreement voluntarily, intelligently, and with full knowledge of all consequences of Defendant's plea of guilty.

Date: 5/8/2025



Marie L. Cortés-Cortés, Esq.
Counsel for Defendant

*U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement*

STIPULATION OF FACTS

In conjunction with the submission of the accompanying Plea Agreement in this case, the Defendant Nelly N. Anqueira admits that she is guilty as charged in Count One of the Information and admits the following:

Per death certificate, individual with initials F.A.S. died on May 7, 2023. The Social Security Administration was not notified of F.A.S.'s death and continued to send his/her SSA monthly benefit payments via direct deposit to the registered bank account in the file. Prior to F.A.S.'s death, Nelly Anqueira had control of the debit card associated to F.A.S.'s registered bank account.

Between on or about June 1, 2023, and continuing through on or about June 30, 2024, in Puerto Rico, the defendant, Nelly N. Anqueira, knowingly and willfully embezzled, stole, and converted to her own use or the use of another, money of the SSA, a department or agency of the United States, namely payments issued by the United States Department of Treasury, on behalf of the Social Security Administration, which payments were made payable to individual with initials F.A.S., to which she knew she was not entitled, having a value in excess of \$1,000.00, that is, approximately \$11,835.00.

At trial, the United States would have proven beyond a reasonable doubt that the defendant is guilty as charged in Count One of the Information by presenting physical and documentary evidence, videos, photographs, as well as the testimony of law enforcement agents, employees from the SSA and others. Full discovery was

U.S. v. Nelly N. Anqueira
Plea Agreement

timely provided to the defendant.



Vanessa D. Bonano-Rodríguez
Special Assistant U.S. Attorney
Dated: 5.7.25



Marie L. Cortés-Cortés
Counsel for Defendant
Dated: 5/8/25



Nelly N. Anqueira
Defendant
Dated: 5/8/25